

7/3/73

Dear Sol,

At its worst, your handwriting is better than my best. I could make out just about all of your 6/29.

No word from prospective German publisher. His US agent was a week late leaving for Germany. If I felt I could honestly outline, there is also a possibility with Feltrinelli (widow—he published my first book in Italy and I've heard from her). I will not commit myself to an outline which could be the basis of a contrast while the story is breaking, even if I expect little to influence what I have in mind.

If I do this book, I'll be dealing with Burger as I did in the ~~unprint~~ unprinted part of what became Framo-Up. Terrible man! Powell does make pretense of principle and seems impelled to do enough to give a semblance of reality to it.

What you say of Magruder/Coffin is, of course, correct. But why not go a step further: with Coffin there was a judicial determination of fact — innocence.

Your figure of the shepherd and the flock is apt. I may use it! It is simple, says much, and has the perfect perspective.

En banc rehearing my FOI suit, with arguments, 7/11. I meet with lawyers Thursday. Unfortunately, they lumped it with one of the cheapies, a bad suit.

I've gotten most of my Watergate files in shape for writing and I've begun writing of what was fresh in mind. The material is too enormous. It would take a large committee at least a year to make adequate inquiry into all the viable leads in Dean's testimony alone. Most were missed or ignored by the press, which is not criticism, given their inability to keep up with the details of the whole mess and the subtlety with which Dean managed to plant these little things in, for whatever purpose(s).

You say you've been watching the hearings. I take this to mean not all of them but when you could. If you caught the last of Weicher in the Dean sequences, you may remember reference to a law proscribing what I recall as "improper interference with the proper functioning of" Congressional committees and other bodies. I am reasonably confident that this is the law Dies had enacted in his futile effort to "get" Pat Jackson and me. If your law library has this and if it is not too much copy to xerox, I'd appreciate a copy.

Back to the salt mines (no figure this hot sultry day). Best to all,